

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/803,117

Examiner

Chad Rapp

Applicant(s)

KURIHARA ET AL.

Art Unit

2125

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed o 07/13/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 9/15/05.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Christopher P. Mitchell on September 15, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 8, line 1 "claim 1" is replaced with "claim 7".

In claim 9, line 1 "claim 1" is replaced with "claim 7".

In claim 12, line 1 "claim 5" is replaced with "claim 11".

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In claim 1, "motion control means for controlling relative motion of the wire electrode and the work piece based on the rate of machining determined by said machining rate determining means such that a speed of the relative motion is decreased when the rate of machining is increased, in combination with the other claimed elements and features is not taught nor fairly suggested by the prior art of record..

In claim 4, comparison means for comparing the voltage drop determined by said voltage drop calculation means and the predetermined value stored in said reference value storage

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means”, in combination with the other claimed elements and features is not taught nor fairly suggested by the prior art of record..

In claim 5, “means for obtaining a motion amount by multiplying a distance of relative motion determined by a preset feed speed and the predetermined period by said ratio, and outputting the obtained motion amount to the movement means as the motion command in each predetermined period”, in combination with the other claimed elements and features is not taught nor fairly suggested by the prior art of record..

In claim 7, “a motion control part to control relative motion of the wire electrode and the work piece based on the rate of machining determined by said machining rate determining part such that a speed of the relative motion is decreased when the rate of machining is increased”, in combination with the other claimed elements and features is not taught nor fairly suggested by the prior art of record..

In claim 10, a comparison part to compare the voltage drop determined by said voltage drop calculator and the predetermined value stored in said reference value storage”, in combination with the other claimed elements and features is not taught nor fairly suggested by the prior art of record..

In claim 11, a motion calculator to obtain a motion amount by multiplying a distance of relative motion determined by a preset feed speed and the predetermined period by said ratio, and outputting the obtained motion amount to the movement part as the motion command in each predetermined period”, in combination with the other claimed elements and features is not taught nor fairly suggested by the prior art of record..

4. Prior art

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Kamiguchi et al. (6,278,075) has a similar set up except it uses a thickness calculating device. This device calculates a ratio of thickness which changes the voltage applied to the wire electrode for determining a reference thickness. Rather than using the voltage drop calculation to control the movement.

Sato et al. does not disclose the limitations that Kamiguchi et al. lacks.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chad Rapp whose telephone number is (571)272-3752. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 11:00-7:00.

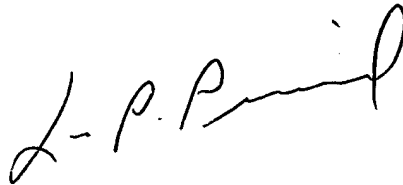
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo Picard can be reached on (571)272-3749. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Chad Rapp
Examiner
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cjr

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. P. Picard", written in a cursive style.

LEO PICARD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100